

JOINT STAFF REPORT
SUMMER SEASON FACT SHEET NO. 1
Columbia River Compact
Joint State Hearing
June 28, 2004

Purpose:	To update sockeye and summer chinook stock status and to consider non-Indian and treaty Indian fishing seasons in the mainstem Columbia River.
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Management Guidelines

- Non-Indian and treaty Indian fisheries proposed for January 1-July 31, 2004 are covered under the 2001 Interim Management Agreement.
- The Biological Opinion concerning these fisheries has been completed and outlines impacts to ESA listed spring chinook, summer chinook, sockeye, and steelhead in spring and summer season fisheries.

	Non-Indian Allowable Impacts	Treaty Indian Allowable Impacts
Snake River Wild summer chinook	≤1%	5%
Snake River Sockeye	≤1%	7%
Wild steelhead	≤2%	

Sockeye Run Status

- Preseason forecasts projected a return of 80,700 sockeye to Columbia River, of which 154 would be destined for the Snake River.
- Through June 27 a total of 89,959 sockeye have passed Bonneville Dam.
- Based on counts through June 27 the TAC updated the run size forecast to 115,000 sockeye entering the Columbia River.
- The escapement goal for sockeye is 65,000 at Priest Rapids Dam, which equates to about 75,000 at Bonneville Dam. Based on the most recent run size update an estimated 40,000 sockeye would be surplus to escapement needs.
- Allowable impact rate of 1% includes zero sockeye caught in the shad fishery. The sport fishery is expected to handle about 100 sockeye, for an overall impact rate of less than 0.1%.

Summer Chinook Run Status

- Preseason forecasts projected a return of 102,800 summer chinook to the Columbia River, of which 33,700 would be destined for the Snake River.
- Through June 27 a total of 55,325 summer chinook have passed Bonneville Dam.
- The counts appear to be on track for the preseason forecast of 102,800. TAC did not update the run. There is some indication that the Snake River portion of the run will be less than forecast, and the Upper Columbia run may be greater than forecast.
- The escapement goal for summer chinook is 85,000 at Bonneville Dam. Based on the most recent run size update an estimated 17,800 summer chinook would be surplus to escapement needs.
- The allowable non-Indian impact rate of 1% includes 0.3-0.5% in the sport fishery, 0.1% in the shad fishery, and 0.2% in SAFE, resulting in a minimum of 0.2% remaining impacts for the summer season commercial fishery. Based on a run size of 102,800 summer chinook 0.2% would equate to a total handle of 800 summer chinook.
- TAC believes based on PIT tag analysis that Snake River summer chinook should be past Bonneville Dam by this time. Analysis of impacts to listed Snake River wild summer chinook will be less than shown in this Fact sheet.

Management Tackle Box

Effort- 20-40 boats (per fishing period)	Sockeye	Summer Chinook	Steelhead (Wild Group A)
Sockeye to Steelhead Ratio			12:1
Adipose-clip Mark Rate	4%	50%	73%
Percent Wild	96%	50%	27%
In-season Forecast ^{1/}	115,000	102,800	82,400
Expected Catch	1,400	400	---
Expected Handle	1,500	800	125
Expected Mortality Rate	66%	26%	66%
Estimated Mortalities			83
Allowable Non-Indian Impacts	1%	1%	2%
Impacts to Date (from previous and in-place fisheries)	0.10%	0.60-0.80%	0.16-0.40%
Impact Remaining	0.90%	0.20%-0.40%	1.81%-1.57%
Estimated Impacts from Proposed Fishery	0.90%	0.20%	0.03%

^{1/} Based on preseason forecast.

- Catch expectations and incidental handle estimates are based on data from fisheries and monitoring in 1984, 1985, 1987, 1988 and 2000.
- Effort levels are based on fisheries occurring during 1984, 1985, 1987, 1988, and 2001. Participation is typically low in this fishery due to interest in Alaskan fisheries.
- Impacts to wild Group A steelhead from the proposed fishery are estimated to be less than 0.07% of the run size.

Fishery Proposals

Non-Indian Commercial Summer Season Fishery

<i>Joint Staff Recommendation</i>	
Adopt the following fishing periods for the mainstem Columbia River	
Season:	6 AM to 6 PM Wednesday June 30 (12 hours) 6 AM to 6 PM Friday July 2 (12 hours)
Area:	Mouth upstream to the Longview Bridge.
Sanctuaries:	Grays Bay, Big Creek, Gnat Creek, and Elokomina sanctuaries are in effect.
Gear:	Net length not to exceed 175 fathoms. 4-1/2 inch maximum mesh size restriction. Single wall floater gill net.
Allowable Sales:	<u>Non</u> -adipose fin-clipped sockeye, adipose fin-clipped chinook, shad, and sturgeon. All non-adipose fin-clipped chinook salmon, adipose fin-clipped sockeye, and steelhead must be released immediately.
Miscellaneous Regulations:	Soak times, defined as time elapsed from when the first mesh enters the water to when the last mesh leaves the water, shall not exceed 45 minutes. Use of recovery boxes is required on all lethargic or bleeding salmonids. Each vessel is required to have two operable recovery boxes or one box with two chambers. Operable recovery boxes must have a flow of 16-20 gallons per minute to the box or each chamber. Each box shall be operating during any time that the net is being retrieved or picked. Quick reporting rule in effect for Washington buyers.

Management Considerations

- Daytime fishing will maximize sockeye catch.

- A fishery checkpoint will be scheduled for Thursday July 1 to ensure that impacts to listed sockeye, summer chinook, and steelhead remain within the ESA limits.
- Second fishing period may be eliminated depending on catch during first fishing period and run size updates.

Treaty Indian Fisheries Summary

2004 Treaty Summer Chinook and Sockeye Catch						
	Summer Chinook			Sockeye		
Fishery	To Date	Projected	Harvest Rate	To Date	Projected	Harvest Rate
Platform/H&L (6/19)	370	1,370	1.30%	1,090	2,600	2.30%
June 23-25	2,299	2,299	2.20%	469	469	0.40%
Total	2,669	3,669	3.50%	1,559	3,069	2.70%
Remaining/Overage	2,471	1,471	1.40%	6,491	4,981	4.30%
Harvest Rate	2.40%	1.40%		5.60%	4.30%	

Treaty Indian Commercial Summer Season Fishery

<i>Tribal Recommendation</i>	
Adopt the following salmon fishing period for the mainstem Columbia River.	
Season:	6 AM Wednesday June 30 to 6PM Friday July 2 (60 hours)
Area:	All of Zone 6
Sanctuaries:	All standard dam and river mouth sanctuaries will apply, with the exception of Spring Creek
Gear:	No mesh size restriction.
Allowable Sale:	Sockeye, chinook, steelhead, coho, shad, walleye, and carp. Sturgeon may not be sold, but sturgeon between 4 and 5 feet in The Dalles and John Day pools may be kept for subsistence use and sturgeon between 45-60 inches in the Bonneville Pool may also be kept for subsistence use.
Expected Catch:	3,200 – 4,000 sockeye. 1,000 – 1,500 summer chinook.
Miscellaneous Regulations:	Sale of fish caught in the platform/hook and line fishery will be allowed. Fish caught during open fishing periods in the Wind, Klickitat and Big White Salmon rivers tributary fisheries may be sold when the sale of platform and hook-and-line fish is allowed. Quick reporting rule in effect for Washington buyers.

- A net flight will be done to measure effort. The tribes will monitor the fishery to determine total catch.

- Additional tribal fishing may be proposed dependant on the catches in this opening and the run size.

Non-Indian Recreational Sockeye Fishery

<i>Joint Staff Recommendation</i>	
Adopt the following salmon fishing period for the mainstem Columbia River	
Season:	Open June 30 through December 31, 2004.
Area:	Tongue Point Rocky Point line upstream to the Highway 395 Bridge in Pasco, Washington.
Expected Catch:	100-200 sockeye salmon.

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
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